UNITED
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General Assembly

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A/RES/54/256
27 April 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 118

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/511/Add.2)*]

54/256. Outsourcing practices in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of outsourcing practices at the United Nations,[1] the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "The challenge of outsourcing for the United Nations system"[2] and the comments of the Administrative Committee on Coordination thereon,[3] as well as the report of the Secretary-General on outsourcing practices in the United Nations[4] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5]

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that programme managers are guided by the basic reasons for outsourcing, as indicated in paragraph 4 of his report,[4] and the goals, as indicated in paragraph 13 of the report;

2. *Endorses* the United Nations guidelines on outsourcing set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[6] pending consideration of the report requested in paragraph 3 below;

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[1] A/51/804, annex.

[2] See A/52/338.

[3] A/52/338/Add.1, annex.

[4] A/53/818.

[5] A/53/942.

[6] A/53/818, sect. III.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to define, in a more detailed way and with justification, the criteria for decisions on which activities and services should or should not be outsourced, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

95th plenary meeting
7 April 2000

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4 May 2000

Fifty-fourth session
Agenda item 118

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/511/Add.2)]

54/257. Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

1. *Takes note* of the following reports:

(*a*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the commercial insurance programmes;[1]

(*b*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audits of the regional commissions;[2]

(*c*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;[3]

(*d*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the United Nations health insurance programme;[4]

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[1] A/52/1020, annex.

[2] A/52/776, annex..

[3] A/52/821, annex.

[4] A/53/467, annex.

(*e*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into allegations of theft of funds by a staff member of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;[5]

(*f*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of common services in the United Nations[6] and the comments of the Joint Inspection Unit thereon;[7]

(*g*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into the field office in Lebanon of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;[8]

(*h*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the management audit of conference centres at the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;[9]

(*i*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into allegations concerning an electronic commerce project at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;[10]

(*j*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of the procurement of Lysol by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[11]

(*k*) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the inquiry into allegations of insufficient use of expertise in procurement planning of aviation services in peacekeeping missions;[12]

2. *Takes note also* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs[13] and the comments of the Joint Inspection Unit thereon;[14]

3. *Requests* that, in future, the appropriate legislative mandates relating to the work of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs be included in the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, and also requests that the appropriate legislative mandates be included as well in other future published reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of the programme and administrative practices of the secretariat of the International Trade Centre

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[5] A/53/811, annex.

[6] See A/54/157.

[7] See A/54/157/Add.1.

[8] See A/54/367.

[9] See A/54/410.

[10] A/54/413, annex.

[11] A/52/887, annex.

[12] A/52/1010, annex.

[13] See A/54/334.

[14] See A/54/334/Add.1.

UNCTAD/WTO[15] and the comments of the Unit thereon,[16] reaffirming that the merging of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre has not been approved by the pertinent legislative bodies;

5. *Takes note also* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the review of programme management in the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division,[17] reaffirming that the discontinuation of mandates on crime prevention and criminal justice is within the prerogative of the pertinent legislative bodies;

6. *Takes note further* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the investigation into the alleged conflict of interest in the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)[18] and the comments of the Unit thereon,[19] reaffirming that the approval of amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations and the ratification of amendments to the Staff Rules are the prerogative of Member States.

95th plenary meeting
7 April 2000

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[15] A/51/933, annex.

[16] A/52/575, annex.

[17] A/52/777, annex.

[18] A/52/339, annex.

[19] A/52/339/Add.1.